

LAURENCE REDINGTON SPORTING EDITOR



SPORTS



THE TRUTH ABOUT SPORT IS NEVER A KNOCK

WHIFFS FROM THE OLD SPORT PIPE

BY
Redington

THERE SEEMS TO BE A DEARTH of good fight referees in Honolulu just at present. Or rather, a minus quantity of good ones who are willing to serve as third man in the ring for local bouts. There are half a dozen sporting men here who know the game thoroughly, and who are capable of giving an impartial verdict and of enforcing the Queensbury laws, but they are extremely ring shy, for some reason or other, and quickly sidestep any proposition to officiate.

This condition of affairs has been brought sharply before the fight fans in connection with the McCarthy-Madison mill, which is scheduled for next Saturday, August 3. Eight or ten names have been suggested, but the referee possibilities have dwindled down to about two men.

Of the experts who can but won't, there is Dick Sullivan, who shakes his head sadly, and announces that "a whole drove of wild horses wouldn't get me into the ring." Paddy Ryan, who says he's out of the game and doesn't have to pick up small change in that way; Mike Paton, who, on account of differences with the local promoter, isn't anxious to put himself out; Joe Cohen, who is very lukewarm over the suggestion of officiating; and one or two others who have loudly cried, "Nay, nay," when wounded on the subject.

This affords the available referee material down to Dr. Birch and Sergeant Spike Dowderty, the Schofield Barracks sporting man. The latter is a first class man, and should be able to give satisfaction to all parties.

RING FANS ARE LOOKING FORWARD to the McCarthy-Madison affair, and are hoping that they will see a clean-cut exhibition of the game which will take away the bad taste left by the last McCarthy-Cordell fracas. The majority of the boxing followers are willing to give McCarthy the benefit of the doubt, and concede that he had no part in the very questionable proceedings which forced Mike Paton to declare all bets off and stop the last fight, and they are ready to give the San Francisco lad the squarest kind of a deal on what will probably be his last appearance in the local ring for some time.

McCarthy is crazy to get back to that dear S. F. Cal., and he won't lose much time in shaking the dust of Honolulu from his feet after his engagement is fulfilled. And that dust talk isn't a mere figure of speech either.

A TENNIS PLAYER, WHO, ALTHOUGH he may not be exactly in the first flight of players, has nevertheless figured in local tournaments, and who has seen and played in many of the big competitions in the East and in England, buttonholed the writer after one of the recent matches at Beretania with the following plaint:

"Why, is it," he asked, "that it is practically impossible to get correct umpiring and lining in these tennis tournaments? I'm not kicking at the decisions, which are uniformly good, and besides, anyone is apt to make mistakes in calling service faults, especially where the light is as bad as at Beretania, but I mean about following the simplest etiquette of the game. Umpires here, when they open their mouths at all, usually say 'good,' thereby confusing the player, and as to the linesmen, they will never say a word unless cross questioned by the umpire."

It must be admitted that this arrangement is more or less to the point. It's a thankless job to officiate at a tennis match, as everyone will freely admit, but once a man is stuck for it, it's just as easy to do it the right way as the wrong way. While it seems foolish to state facts which should be well known, there is evidently some misunderstanding among officials here as to their duties.

In the first place, every ball is considered good until it is called "fault." Each service that does not land in court should be called "fault" by the umpire, distinctly, even if it goes into the net, or hits the backstop. It is absolutely unpardonable for an umpire to call "good" on a service, for the player expects only to hear faults called, and is likely to be thrown off. In the same way linesmen should call every ball that goes beyond their line so that the audience, as well as the players, can hear them. The linesmen on the back lines should call foot faults, not the umpire, who can

Fair Eastern Experts Will Be Seen On Courts



MISS L. PHILLIPS AND E. PHILLIPS OF CHICAGO LADIES' SINGLES EVENT FOR THE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIP OF HAWAII BEGINS TODAY

4:00 p. m.—Mrs. Barton vs. Miss Richards; Mrs. Gregory vs. Miss L. Phillips.
4:45 p. m.—Miss V. Wilder vs. Miss E. Phillips; Miss Edna Smith vs. Miss Juliette Atherton.

After a day's lay-off the Beretania tennis courts will again present a scene of activity today, when the ladies' singles event of the Hawaiian championship tournament is started. Four matches are scheduled as above, which will give the entire entry of eight a chance to show their ability on the opening day. No byes are necessary on account of the number of entries, so the tournament should be completed in three days.

Considerable interest attaches to this event, as there are several players in it who have not been seen in competition here. Mrs. Barton, Mrs. Gregory and Miss Wilder hail from Schofield Barracks, where they have had ample opportunity to work up a strong game. Tennis is the big sport at Lihou, especially since the arrival of the First Infantry, which numbers many players among the officers and their wives. Miss L. Phillips and Miss E. Phillips are Chicago players, who have been in Honolulu but a short time. The former won the championship of the Aztec Club of that city a short time ago, and is generally considered to be a very strong player. The other three entrants are products of the local courts.

The championship tournament is slipping along in languorous style, and with only the men's singles completed, it will be at least two weeks before all the titles are settled. As there is no particular hurry, the committee is making no effort to rush matters, and "Nothin' to do 'till tomorrow" is the recognized motto. Under the circumstances, this is all right, but it would be interesting to know what some of the local racketeers, who have been known to throw up their hands at the mere suggestion of playing two matches in an afternoon, would do if they entered a real tournament, where play continued from 9 in the morning until 6 at night, and where players entered in several events often have to play five or six hard matches in a single day.

BASEBALL AS A SPECTACLE

The costly constructions at Fenway Park not only please the eye, they start reflection. Like the massive amphitheatres now built in Philadelphia, St. Louis, Cleveland, Chicago and New York; like those provided for Greater New York, Cincinnati and Detroit, this costly home of the Boston team has worked in brick, steel and cement a practical question: Will baseball last, or will it some day leave these great works as empty as the rinks from which the roller skating craze ebbed out?

What new games the future may start, no one, of course, can tell. Baseball itself was but lately in the future, its initial dates are 1845 and 1870. And yet were able theorists to play commissioned to devise outright a game that were better suited for entertaining a crowd, large or small, and better adapted for clean management upon players' merit, the chances would be strongly against their success. For in remarkable degree baseball combines the three good points needed in a game that seeks to win and hold a people's favor.

To begin with, baseball, both in layout of the field and in number of players, has the right scale. It just fits a crowd big enough to stir the blood by mere assembling and still more by the applause or disappointment. In this particular baseball surpasses tennis and cricket altogether. On the other hand, the scale is small enough to let the crowd in close and center in upon the game; herein baseball surpasses any well-tracked racing, and especially regattas. In point of time, also, the scale is right. A game comfortably fills the better part of an afternoon, and, unlike football, it involves a no dull between time for the crowd to kill as best it may.

Further, with these good proportions, the game follows a singularly not be expected to look at the server's feet, and the spot the ball lands, at one and the same time. Also, the umpire should call the score after each point.

It's no fun to umpire, and the man whose good natured enough to do it should not be criticized for doing the best he can in the way of decisions, even if sometimes his eyesight is bad, but anyone with ordinary intelligence, and a knowledge of the game can go through the proper formulae, and prevent Honolulu tournaments from becoming the laughing stock of the tennis community.

CHANGING THE TENNIS SERVE ACROSS WATER

English Players Are Reverting to Style Which Prevailed Before American Influence Was Felt

The service at the moment in lawn tennis in England is undergoing a noteworthy evolution, to judge by a careful study of the British sporting papers that find their way to the Mid-Pacific. The influence of Brooks and of Americans like Holcombe Ward, so marked three or four years ago, is spending its force. A study of the Frenchmen, Decugis and Gobert, both of whom serve like the late H. S. Mahony, is bringing about a change the feature of which is a preference for the deeply pitched service of varied and calculated direction.

Even Brooks himself, one of the pioneers of the new style, is reverting to the old style, and while retaining the American and reverse services now employs more speed and less break. The influence of contemporary champions on the game has always been powerful and to the student of evolution this return to the methods of the old English school through an agency of French players, who learned their strokes at the hands of men like Doherty and Mahony, is at once interesting and suggestive.

Dixon Adaptable. All this, however, does not mean that the "new" style will be entirely eliminated. Every phase through which lawn tennis passes must benefit the next stage. An illustration of this dependent development is forthcoming in the case of C. P. Dixon. At an age when most players have grooved their style beyond change, Mr. Dixon has grafted on to his old game many of the strokes which America and the colonies have exploited with success. From this country he took back the break service and that desire to attack at closer range which put into practice, has proved of incalculable value.

Mr. Dixon, however, in adding to his armory of weapons, has not discarded or forgotten how to use those base line strokes which he learned in early life. Nor, in volleying, does he come as far forward as Brooks or the Americans. His position is that adopted by the Dohertys, Mahony and by Fim. It invited less fatigue than the right-in position, and it has the virtue of protecting the head from a succession of lobs. Against orthodox English driving, such as Mr. Ritchie and the Germans employ, Mr. Dixon has found as the Dohertys found that baseline excellence, combined with a cautious advance, will suffice.

French Players Aggressive. The French players, trained in a most aggressive school, where the pace of the service requires the striker-out to stand well behind the base line, come farther in, and it is here that Dixon, unlike Doherty, who retired before the Frenchmen asserted themselves, may find his difficulty. For, unless a man who makes volleying his forte can volley in games when he receives the service as well as in games when he delivers it, his chances of victory are materially weakened.

Deed Of Gift For International Polo Cup Now Drawn Up

The details of a deed of gift for the international polo cup have been made public. The document was framed at the suggestion of August Belmont after consultation with the Jurlingham club.

The original cup, won by Sir John Watson's team at Newport in 1876, was bought by a subscription among followers of the game and presented to the Westchester Polo club, to be perpetual international challenge trophy. The cup stayed in the possession of the Jurlingham club until 1909, when Harry Payne Whitney's Meadow Brook club team brought it back to this country. Special rules and conditions had to be framed when there has been a challenge for the cup since 1876.

Following Mr. Belmont's suggestions, the Westchester Polo club has normally handed over the cup to the Polo association, to be held in trust. Under the deed of gift, as accepted by the polo organizations of America and England, challenge for the cup must be made by Jan. 1 of the year in which the competition is to be held. The match, the best of three games, must be played between June 1 and July 8, or as soon after as the weather permits. Also the cup may be played for only once in each year.

Former Governor William O. Dawson of West Virginia has signed the call for the national convention of the Roosevelt party to be held in Chicago August 5.

WILL SWING INDIAN CLUBS FOR EIGHTY HOURS AT A STRETCH

Tom Burrows, World's Champion Endurance Performer, Will Attempt to Smash His Own Record.

To stand up and swing Indian clubs for 80 hours at a stretch without sleep, without rest and with very little food, is a feat that to the uninitiated sounds almost incredible. But that is just what Tom Burrows, the champion endurance club swinger of the world, who blew in from Australia a few weeks ago, is going to attempt.



TOM BURROWS.

In Honolulu. His record is 80 hours, and he is going to try and smash it next week.

Burrows, who won the world's championship belt in London January, 1907 against all comers, is hard at his training and getting into splendid condition for his forthcoming attempt to beat the world's endurance and speed record of 80 hours, at the Empire next week. When one considers that this extraordinary performance occupies four days and four nights without stopping, it seems almost beyond comprehension; yet the conditions and rules are such that Burrows must swing not less than 90 complete revolutions each minute, and to break the record must average 90 each minute for the 80 hours.

A strong committee of press and well known citizens will be formed to supervise the record, to see that the performance is carried out in a genuine manner.

BRITISH LAUD OUR ATHLETES

That British athletes held their American Olympic rivals in high regard, and never expected to win the important events on the Stockholm program, is evidenced by articles in English papers which were published prior to the opening of the games. This is interesting, in that it gives the dental to highly colored stories printed in some of the papers, indicating that the Englishmen took their defeats with a very poor grace and would not concede the superiority of the Americans.

An article in the London Times, by a staff correspondent at Stockholm, reads as follows:

"The fact which stands out most in the great strength of the American team. It is generally recognized to be by far the strongest, not merely in point of numbers but also in all-around ability. When one learns that there are among the Americans six men who can run the 400 meters under 49 seconds; six who can run the 800 meters under 1 minute 54 seconds; as well as ten first class hurdlers, one feels that they might be justified in their boast that they could send over three teams, any one of which would sweep the board in the stadium. Splendid Specimens.

"A finer lot of men was probably never got together. The average height is nearly six feet and not even the Swedish gymnasts are more symmetrically built. The English athletes on the other hand, and especially the distance runners, are built on a small scale. One fears once again that they will have to recognize that a good 'big one' always beats 'a good little one.'"

"Whoever is to beat the Americans this year must not only be a great athlete, but must undergo a thorough and scientific course of training, and in this Americans are of course pre-eminent. Not even the Swedes, and they have an American trainer, have anything like the care lavished on them that has been spent on the Americans."

"Partly it is, of course, the result of the concentration on whatever may be the immediate thing in hand, whether in sports or in business. Partly, and by no means the least, it is effectiveness of the British Olympic Council is almost ludicrous."

AMERICAN SWIMMERS NOT AS GOOD AS EUROPEANS AT THE DISTANCES

Even Hawaiian Experts Can't Keep Up Speed for the Longer Numbers — Famous Chicago Swimming Coacher Tells Why the Best Men Abroad Have It on American Exponents of the Aquatic Game

Swimming has always been a sport of national importance in Hawaii, and within the last few years the competitive element has come to the fore with a rush. Especially since Duke Kahanamoku cracked a couple of world's records here, less than a year ago, and then won name and fame in continental United States and abroad, have island swimmers been studying strokes and form, and trying to perfect themselves in the racing game.

When Duke first went East it was remarked that for distances over 100 yards he was inferior to the best American sprint swimmers. Some critics gave it as their opinion that he never would be able to swim the 220 in record time, but under the careful coaching of George Kistler he improved wonderfully, and managed to beat out the best of them in the trials for the Olympic relay, over a 320-yard course.

But the fact remains that our swimmers are inferior to the European product over the long distances. William Bachrach, swimming instructor of the Illinois Athletic Club, in a recent interview printed in a Chicago paper, gives some reasons for this condition.

Knows the Game. Bachrach is of German descent and comes from a family of swimmers, so has a clear idea of European swimming. Long years of competition and coaching in the United States also have given him a thorough insight into the situation.

"There are so many different causes for European supremacy in distance swimming that it would be impossible to point to any one thing and say that was the root of America's trouble," declared Bachrach. "European and American methods are entirely different, and there are scores of ways in which the competitors differ, but half a dozen come to mind as the most prominent."

"Were I asked for the greatest reason I would undoubtedly say that it lay in the American crawl stroke. When Harry J. Handy of the Illinois Athletic Club first came into prominence he was regarded as the most wonderful swimmer in the United States, and his style and methods immediately began to attract attention. Frank Sullivan had at that time just imported the Australian crawl stroke and taught it to Handy, who afterward improved upon it and introduced the famous American, or legless crawl, stroke. As soon as this began to be played up every swimmer in the United States thought he had to learn the crawl stroke. I was a touch at the time and I remember I was enthusiastic over it for a while.

"The crawl stroke is absolutely the most exhausting stroke in the catalogue. There is not a swimmer in the United States who can use it for a full mile without exhausting himself. Handy was one man in a million and what he could do the younger men of today can not do. Handy is a vegetarian, takes absolute care of his physical condition and there is not a day in the year that he is not trained. Old men can not hold training that way. It is absolutely necessary for 999 men out of a thousand to 'lay off' every once in a while or they would go stale. Handy is the only swimmer I ever met who could keep training from one end of the year to the other.

"Crawl Stroke Faulty. The American youngsters adopted the 'crawl' and made some remarkable records in all distances up to 220 yards. You will find that American swimmers now can beat European distance men for the first 220 yards of a mile swim, and it is only after that mark is passed that the Europeans show their superiority. Every European swimmer uses the Trudgeon stroke for his distances. Many of them have adopted the crawl for the first hundred yards or so, but all of them use the Trudgeon for the greater part of the distance.

"In the United States swimmers work on their nervous energy, using an exhausting stroke to a point seemingly beyond endurance. This is sure to tell on them in the long run. The European swimmer relies upon 'form' more than speed. In every race in which I have seen Europeans swim the competitors are absolutely unmoved by the efforts of their opponents. They know their own ability and form perfectly and they follow that form from start to finish. Where an American crawls out of the tank at the end of a race absolutely bankrupt in nervous energy, the European is unmoved.

"Another thing which shows the great difference between American and European swimmers is in the ages. In the United States the swimmer starts in competition when he is 16 or 17 years old and when he is 21 or 22 practically drops the game because it interferes with his business. He may continue a swimming 'fan,' but his days of competition are over. Just

as the aggregate the United States will be the concentration on whatever may be the immediate thing in hand, whether in sports or in business. Partly, and by no means the least, it is effectiveness of the British Olympic Council is almost ludicrous."

as he has learned to swim well he quite competition and four or five years of coaching have gone to waste. "In Europe, on the other hand, the swimmer does not really get into competition until he is 25 or 26 years old and usually is good for about ten years of work for swimming, more than any competitive sport in the world, is one in which the middle-aged man is on equal terms with the youngsters. Europeans do little competitive work until they are 16 years old and then are only local instead of national heroes as our men are. To acquire a really good swimming form requires years of work, and it is not until a man is about 25 that he is a first-class man. At this time the American is quitting the game while the European is just starting it.

"Another thing is in the method of training. The best way I can illustrate it is by the dachshund. You find a dachshund digging a hole in the ground and pull him away and he will be right back on the job as soon as he can. He has the dogged perseverance that is so characteristic of European training. The American, usually high strung and nervous, can not stand the monotonous grind which training for swimming entails. The European comes by it naturally. In a short race, say 100 yards, where the American can substitute the exertion of an immense amount of energy for a long striding effort, he shows himself the equal or superior of the European swimmer. In distance events in which the long training is an absolute necessity he shows himself a rank inferior.

"Then there is no incentive for the American boy to take up distance swimming than sprint swimming. The media he gets for winning at 10 yards are just as noticeable as those he gets for swimming ten miles and that is his work. The American and glory his goal for 40 yards is greater than that for ten miles, and therefore he puts up American swimmer who doesn't like to hear his name at the end of a long race.

"There are only two good distance races in the United States, the Chicago river ten-mile race given by the I. A. C., and the Mississippi river marathon, given by the Missouri Athletic Club. Both of these are good numbers, and I think if America is to make a better showing in the distances at the next Olympic it would be well to add a few more similar numbers."

HAD RECORD FOR BRAVERY BUT HE WOULDN'T UMPIRE

"I came sir, in answer to your advertisement in last night's paper. You said you wanted to employ a man who was a total stranger to fear."

"Are you a brave man?"
"I am, sir. I have given proof of my courage in many parts of the world."

"Yes?"
"I have faced bullets in Mexico and machetes in Cuba."

"Good!"
"I helped to defend the missionaries against the Boxers, and I was present at the siege of Port Arthur."

"Fine."
"I have fought the infuriated warus of Haffin Bay and the paddled bull elephants of Central Africa, and I went through an Armenian massacre without losing my nerve."

"You seem to be the man I want. Would you be willing to go out on a field in front of 20,000 fair-minded, sport-loving Americans and umpire a baseball game honestly, deciding against the home team when necessary?"

"So that's the job, is it?" replied the man of courage, and broke into a cold perspiration and a run for the door simultaneously.

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